## **Amendment Opposition**

## Cuellar 147

- American Airlines strongly opposes Cuellar 147, which would arbitrarily alter the number of flights that are permitted to go beyond the federally mandated 1,250 perimeter rule around Reagan National Airport (DCA) that was created by Congress in the 1980s.
- The amendment would allow four new beyond perimeter exemptions to each carrier that
  commits to swap an inside perimeter slot to a large-hub airport to serve an airport within 25
  miles of a military medical center that does not currently have service. We believe this only
  applies to airports in San Antonio and San Diego.
- The Cuellar amendment would highly politicize the slot and perimeter rules at DCA by earmarking slots that can only be used to serve limited destinations that are predetermined by Congress.
- The precedent that this amendment creates by carving our predetermined markets for beyond
  perimeter exemptions removes the free-market business decisions from the carriers and places
  the decision on which routes should be served in the hands of legislators.

For these reasons, American urges you to vote against Cuellar 147.